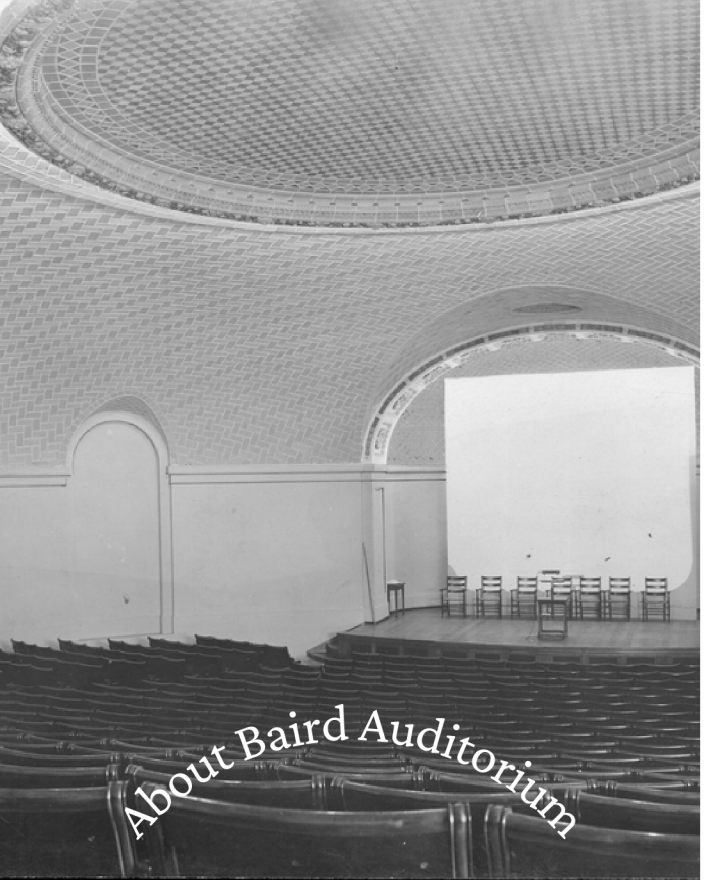


The Baird Auditorium is one of the oldest public performance venues and lecture halls at the Smithsonian. Named for the second Secretary of the Smithsonian Spencer Fullerton Baird and completed in 1909, the Baird Auditorium was designed and built under the direction of Rafael Guastavino and is among the finest U.S. examples of the Guastavino tile arch system.

The Baird Auditorium's events history is as diverse as the Smithsonian itself. Among the musicians who have graced its stage are: Muddy Waters, Mother Maybelle Carter, Pete Seeger, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Ernest Tubb, David Byrne, Wynton Marsalis, and dozens more. The Baird was the site of the 1920 'Shapley-Curtis Debate' on the size of the universe and the existence of outer galaxies, Alain Locke's 1933 landmark lecture on African American art, and the first public screening of motion pictures filmed underwater.

Baird Auditorium, Natural History Museum, 1911, Smithsonian Institution Archives Record Unit 95, Box 33, Folder: 27; Record Unit 79, Box 9, Folder: 1, SIA2002-12145.

STAY IN TOUCH

Radio Preservation Task Force
https://radiopreservation.org

Event Link & QR Code
s.si.edu/rptf

ABOUT AVMPI

The Audiovisual Media Preservation Initiative (AVMPI) is a centralized resource that supports the overall need for individual Smithsonian units to catalog, preserve, and provide access to our audiovisual collections.

Learn More!
s.si.edu/AVPreservation

Contact Us!
AVMPI@si.edu

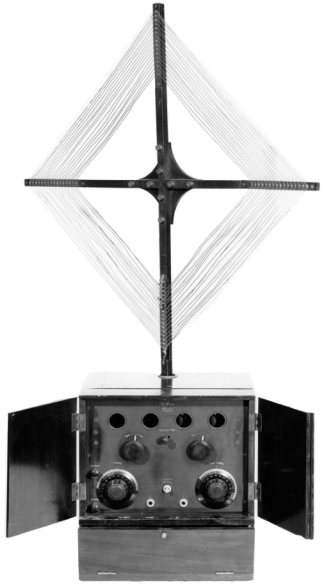
Brochure Cover Image:
De Forest model D-10 radio receiver with antenna, 1923, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, NMAH-MAH-42372.

RPTF & AVMPI co-present

Sunday at the Smithsonian

APRIL 30th, 2023 from 11h00-17h00

BAIRD AUDITORIUM
National Museum of Natural History, Lower Level



Smithsonian
Libraries and Archives

RADIO PRESERVATION TASK FORCE
NATIONAL RECORDING PRESERVATION BOARD
OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Useful Radio Part 2

Special Event **11h00 – 12h30**

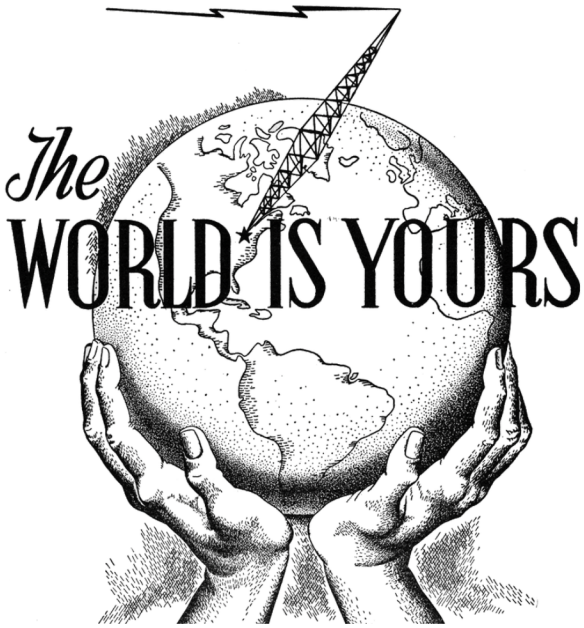
A performance by artists Anna Friz and Jeff Kolar in response to Rick Prelinger's "The Other Spectrum: Useful Radio."

This event includes Q&A with artists and Rick Prelinger.

Radio at the Smithsonian

Panel **13h30 – 15h00**

Radio recordings have a central historical place within Smithsonian collections across the Institution, but the medium has played other nuanced roles. This panel considers lesser-known incarnations of radio at the Smithsonian: the SI's amateur station NN3SI, the material culture collections of radio hardware within the National Museum of American History's Electricity Collection, and original SI-produced educational and promotional programming.



Cover of the supplementary material for March of Science, an episode of the radio program The World is Yours, issued January 15, 1940, Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 83, Smithsonian Institution, Editorial and Publications Division, Records, 1847-1966, SIA2007-0019.

Panelists

The History of NN3SI
John Weise, NN3SI President & Lead IT Specialist, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Smithsonian Institution

Into the Airwaves:
Collecting Radio at the Smithsonian
Hal Wallace, Curator, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Great Doors Swing Open: A Historical Primer on Smithsonian-Produced Radio
Walter Forsberg, Curator of Audiovisual Media, Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

RPTF Listening Party

Special Event **15h30 – 17h00**

To cap off the conference, join us for over an hour's worth of curious and rare radio recordings and audio excerpts and from the collections of RPTF attendees.

The Irish Pirate Radio Selection (circa early 1980s)
Eddie Bohan, Irish Pirate Radio Archive, Dublin City University

Rediscovered Radio: Reflecting on Revolutionary Voices from the 1970s (1971/2017)
Jocelyn Robinson, WYSO

Dedication of Station NN3SI by Secretary Dillon Ripley (1976)
John Weise, NN3SI & Kira Sobers, Smithsonian Institution Archives

The Jazz Singers (2001)
Sonja Williams, Producer, Smithsonian Productions/National Museum of American History

Questionnaire pour Lesconil by Yann Paranthoën (1980)
Annie de Saussure, Assistant Professor of French, Lafayette College

Bo Dollis and the Mardi Gras Indian Band at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival (circa early 1970s)
Melissa A. Weber, Curator, Hogan Archive of New Orleans Music and New Orleans Jazz, Tulane University Special Collections

Dr. Daddy-O introduces Jivin' with Jax, WWEZ AM New Orleans (circa 1950s)
Melissa A. Weber, Curator, Hogan Archive of New Orleans Music and New Orleans Jazz, Tulane University Special Collections

The Peter Rabbit News Service: Sniffy Skunk (1964)
Mary Myers, Regent University

Albert Warner on CBS: "Discuss moving Japanese and Nisei out of critical areas" (1942)
John Vallier, University of Washington

Over the Horizon (2022)
Dr. Sebastiane Hegarty, Sound Artist & Senior Lecturer, Department of Art and Music, Solent University, UK